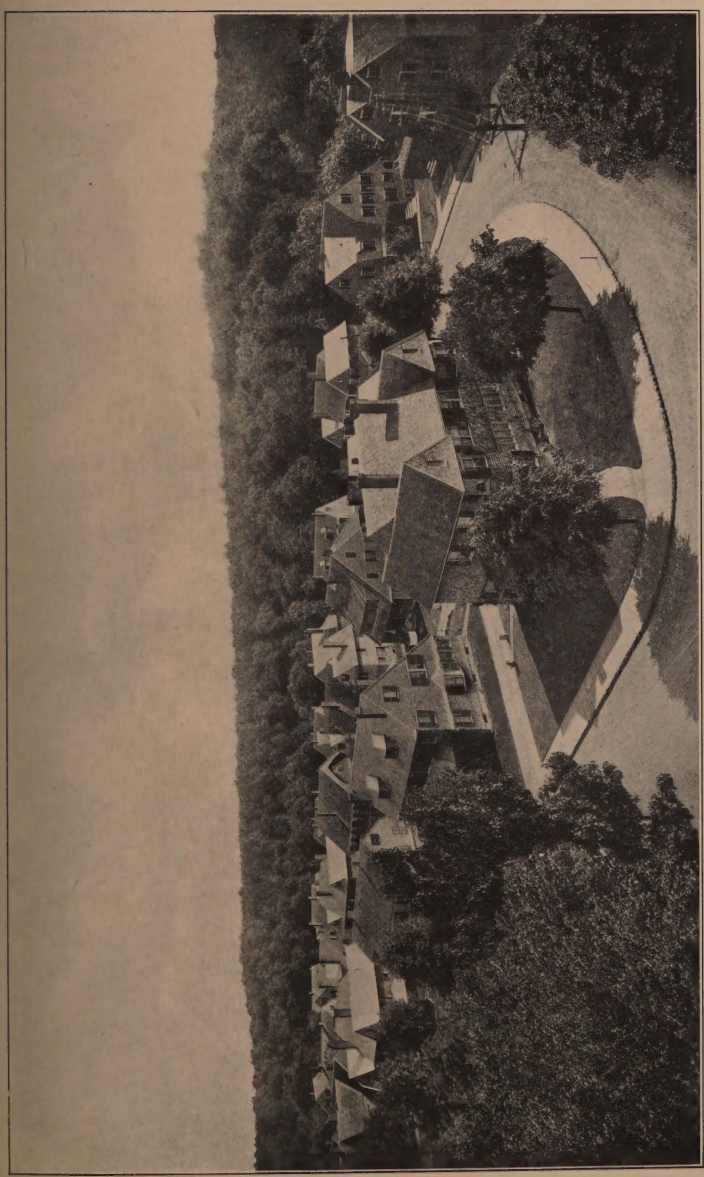
COTTON CHATS

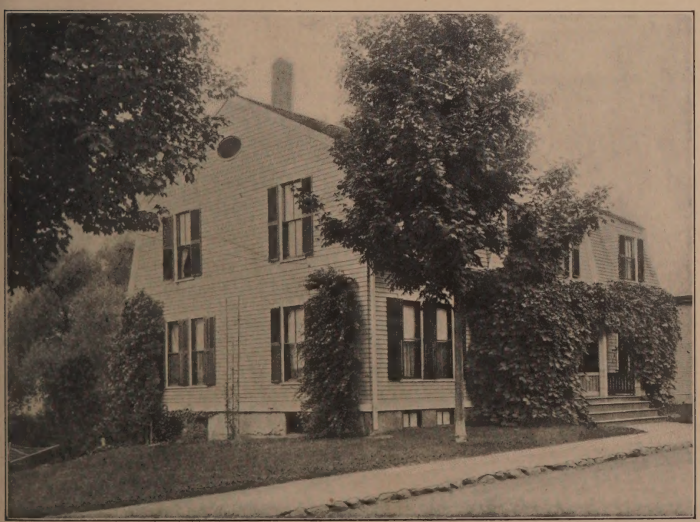
DRAPER COMPANY, HOPEDALE, MASS.

DRAPER COMPANY HOPEDALE MASS.

COTTON CHATS

NO. 95. SEPTEMBER. 1910.



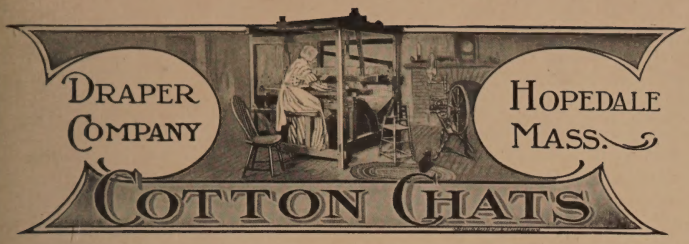


We devote this number of Cotton Chats to illustrations of houses for our employees. The large view on first page is reproduced from a **sky photograph,** the camera being sent up to a height of about ninety feet. The smaller cuts show houses with attractive vines, shrubs and surroundings.

LOOM REPAIRS AND SUPPLIES.

While the annual repairs and supplies for Northrop looms are not excessive, it is important that they fit properly and are made by parties interested in their giving good results. We carry in stock both in Hopedale and Atlanta, a very large quantity of Loom repairs ready for immediate shipment and have facilities for filling orders promptly. We also carry a stock of shuttles of standard patterns; and on special shuttles and bobbins are prepared to handle the orders with expedition. All of our bobbins and shuttles are marked Draper Co.

Look for our name on your bobbins and shuttles.



NO. 96. OCTOBER, 1910.

THE TIDE HAS TURNED

in cotton manufacturing. This is shown by the following orders for Northrop Looms received in the past eleven weeks.

Androscoggin Mills, Lewiston, Maine,	23	
Berkeley Co., Berkeley, R. I.,	128	
Beaumont Mfg. Co., Spartanburg, S. C.,	100	
Davol Mill, Fall River, Mass.,	200	
Dwight Mfg. Co., Chicopee, Mass.,	159	
Dacotah Cotton Mills, Lexington, N. C.,	96	
Everett Mills, Lawrence, Mass.,	1,000	
F. W. Poe Mfg. Co., Greenville, S. C.,	948	
Great Falls Mfg. Co., Somersworth, N. H.,	500	
Gaffney Mfg. Co., Gaffney, S. C.,	50	
International Cotton Mills Co., Manchester, N. H., and Tallassee, Ala.,	1,800	
Jackson Co., Nashua, N. H.,	96	
Merrimack Mfg. Co., Lowell, Mass.,	50	
Manchester Cotton Mills, Rock Hill, S. C.,	85	
Maplecroft Mills, Liberty, S. C.,	200	
Naumkeag Steam Cotton Mills, Salem, Mass.,	84	
Royal River Mfg. Co., Yarmouth, Me.,	24	
Slater Mfg. Co., Pawtucket, R. I.,	23	
Suncook Mills, Suncook, N. H.,	600	
Whittenton Mfg. Co., Taunton, Mass.,	140	
York Mfg. Co., Saco, Me.,	367	
		6,673

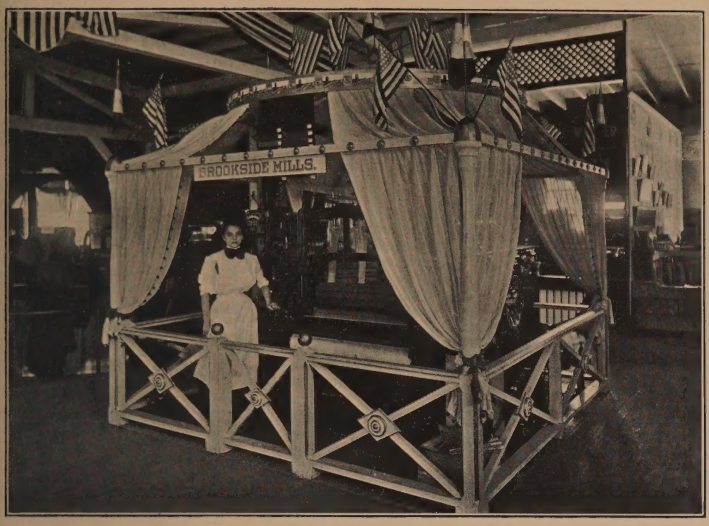
About **five-sixths** of the above **are replacing old looms. Nearly all are repeat orders.** They include looms for weaving wide and narrow sheetings, drills, denims, tickings, chambrays, seamless bags, pillow tubings, corduroys, ginghams, jeans, light ducks, fancy goods, etc.

IT IS A FAR CRY

from the hand spinning and weaving of our forefathers to the modern mill with Northrop Automatic Looms; yet the Appalachian Exposition in Knoxville, Tennessee, last September, has shown that within about twenty miles distance both may be found in practical every day use.

We reproduce through the courtesy of Mr. James Maynard, president of the Brookside Mill of Knoxville, the exhibit of the mill, and by permission of Mr. M. H. Gass,* 2537 Jefferson Ave., Park City, Knoxville, a photograph of the Faust family of Andersonville, Tenn., shown at the exposition with equipment of spinning wheels, reel, hand loom, etc. This picture is of unusual interest, as Mrs. Faust is 105 years old; in addition to her household duties, with the aid of her two children "Coon" and "Sis" also shown in the picture, she weaves the cloth and makes the garments for the family. The transition from hand equipment to modern automatic machinery dates but a little back of the birth of this remarkable woman.

* We understand that Mr. Gass has several photographs of the Faust family and homestead, and we refer parties interested to him for further information.



ALTERATIONS IMPROVEMENTS INVENTIONS AND PATENTS.

For many years our company and its predecessors have made a specialty of the development of patented improvements in cotton machinery. Hardly a day passes without a suggestion by mail or personal interview in regard not only to the lines in which we are interested, but in everything that can be imagined from washing machines to rat traps, and from baby carriages to railroad ties.

It is frequently the case that inventors confuse the several subjects covered by alterations, improvements, inventions and patents. As a rule an invention is supposed to be an improvement in a mechanism as compared with what has been made before; there are certain working parts of textile machines that need more or less adjustment or replacement. This sets the overseer or loom-fixer to thinking of some plan to reduce his personal work and perhaps incidentally improve the working of the loom; the result is probably a different device; but unless it is better in some way, either in its operation or in saving repairs or expense it is a mere alteration and not an improvement. After careful test, should it be a real improvement it may not be an invention which can be patented; this would be the case if some other person had constructed the same device before, or if a combination of well known elements should be used, making what is termed an aggregation of old parts; should the device prove both new and useful and

not shown in what is called at the Patent Office the "State of the art" it is probably patentable; the value of the patent, however, independent of whether the device works well, depends largely upon the nature of the description or specification in the patent, and the claims that are allowed. Unless the claims are carefully drawn to cover just what is new and patentable, it may be possible to evade the patent by a slightly different construction. There is absolutely no remedy for an improperly prepared patent. If the claims are not broad enough, and the specification is incomplete, the really important part of the invention may revert to the public. As a rule short claims in patents with but few elements in combination are much stronger than long involved claims with a large number of elements.

A frequent source of disappointment on the part of inventors is in the case of re-invention of mechanisms patented perhaps years ago. We find also that such inventors often think they should be paid for a device on which a patent may have been granted and have expired. In such case while new to the last inventor, the old patent having expired, it belongs to the public; or if not expired, to the owners of the prior patent.

Recognizing the fact that the cotton manufacturing art since the days of the hand loom and spinning wheel occupies but little more than one century of history, and that the United States patent system has been largely responsible for the greater part of the improvements, we have always encouraged invention and are glad to have improvements called to our attention.

Where we purchase an invention we prefer to have charge of the application for patent as we and our patent solicitors having had long experience in the preparation of such cases are better able to supervise this work than the average inventor and the patent solicitor who charges **"no fee unless a patent is obtained."**